

REMARKS

Claims 51, 55, 57 and 63-71 are pending in the present application. Claims 51, 55, 57, and 63 are independent. By this supplemental reply, claim 54 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein, and new claims 65-71 are added. No new matter is added.

Personal Interview Conducted

Applicants thank the Examiner for the personal interview conducted on June 2, 2008 with Applicants' representative and for the Interview Summary. The above amendments to the claims were discussed with the Examiner during the interview, which the Examiner has indicated would overcome the current rejections. Particularly, the claims have been amended to further define the finalization feature and that the location of the temporary management area is in the lead-in area of the recording medium, which the Examiner has stated would overcome the current art rejections – see the Interview Summary.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 51, 55, 57, 63 and 64 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fukasawa in view of a new reference, Ozaki et al. Claim 54 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fukasawa in view Ozaki et al. as applied to claim 51 above, and further in view of Kim et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's allegations made to reject the claims but to advance prosecution only, each independent claim has been amended in the manner discussed during the interview, which the Examiner has indicated would overcome the current rejections.

Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

New Claims

New dependent claims 65-71 are added, which further clarify the distinguishing features of the present invention over the applied art. For example, some of these dependent claims clarify that the writing management information from the first management area (temporary management area) into the second management area occurs *only* at the finalization of the recording medium, not at each time a recording operation is performed. Thus, indication of allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

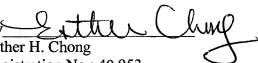
For the foregoing reasons, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw all of the objections and rejections of record, and an early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Should there be any matters which need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Esther H. Chong (Registration No. 40,953) at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 
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